

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 COTONO 01999 020743Z

14

ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 PC-01 AID-05 SCA-01 PPT-01 OPR-02

SY-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 AGR-05

IO-10 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 /073 W

----- 086829

R 311645Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMCONSUL DOUALA

AMCONSUL IBADAN

AMCONSUL KADUNA

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGDOUGOU

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7977

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COTONOU 1999

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: CASC, DM

SUBJ: OVERLAND TRAVEL IN BENIN

1. THE RECENT HOAX INVOLVING THE ALLEGED DETENTION OF AMERICAN CITIZENS NEAR DJOUGOU HAS RAISED QUESTIONS FROM SOME NEIGHBORING POSTS ABOUT THE ADVISABILITY OF SURFACE TRAVEL THROUGH THE INTERIOR OF THE PBR. IN THIS INSTANCE THE REPORT TURNED OUT TO BE FRAUDULENT. NEVERTHELESS THERE IS SOME REASON FOR CONCERN ABOUT THE WELFARE OF OVERLAND AMERICAN TRAVELERS IN THE PBR. THE INCREASED ZEAL OF THE POLICE HERE, THE UNDISCIPLINED VIGILANTE PATROLS OF LOCAL REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEES AND THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY'S BARRAGE OF PROPAGANDA URGING THAT "IMPERIALISTS" BE "LIQUIDATED ON THE SPOT", ALL SERVE TO INCREASE THE POTENTIAL FOR INCIDENTS AND

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 COTONO 01999 020743Z

ARRESTS OF INNOCENT "EUROPEAN" TRAVELERS.

2. FOR THE TIME BEING EMBASSY SEES NO REASON TO RESTRICT TRAVEL TO AMERICANS TO BENIN. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF CURRENT REVOLUTIONARY EXCESSES WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU SUGGEST TO OVERLAND TRAVELERS OVER INTERIOR ROADS, THAT THEY PROVIDE YOU THEIR ITINERARY (FOR CABLE TRANSMISSION TO US) AND CHECK IN HERE WHEN THEY ARRIVE. THESE PRECAUTIONS NOT NECESSARY FOR PERSONS PROCEEDING VIA WELL TRAVELLED COASTAL HIGHWAY.  
ENGLE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PHYSICAL SECURITY, TOURISM, POLICE FORCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 DEC 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975COTONO01999  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750452-0692  
**From:** COTONOU  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t1975122/aaaaabes.tel  
**Line Count:** 71  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SCS  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 AUG 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 AUG 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <09 DEC 2003 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** OVERLAND TRAVEL IN BENIN  
**TAGS:** CASC, PFOR, DM  
**To:** ABIDJAN  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006